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(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

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(84) Designated Contracting States: AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU MC NL PT SE Designated Extension States: AL LT LV MK RO SI	(71) Applicant: CREATE CO., LTD. Fukuoka 815-0075 (JP) (72) Inventor: Kaizuka, Kazutoshi Fukuoka 815-0075 (JP) (74) Representative: Fiener, Josef Postfach 12 49 87712 Mindelheim (DE)
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(54) **Hair brush**

(57) A hairbrush (A) contains bristles (2) formulated with powder formed from the mixture of both extreme infrared radiation material and poly-element minerals, which are then mixed into a plastic material, and attached to a bristle base (11) of the hairbrush (A).

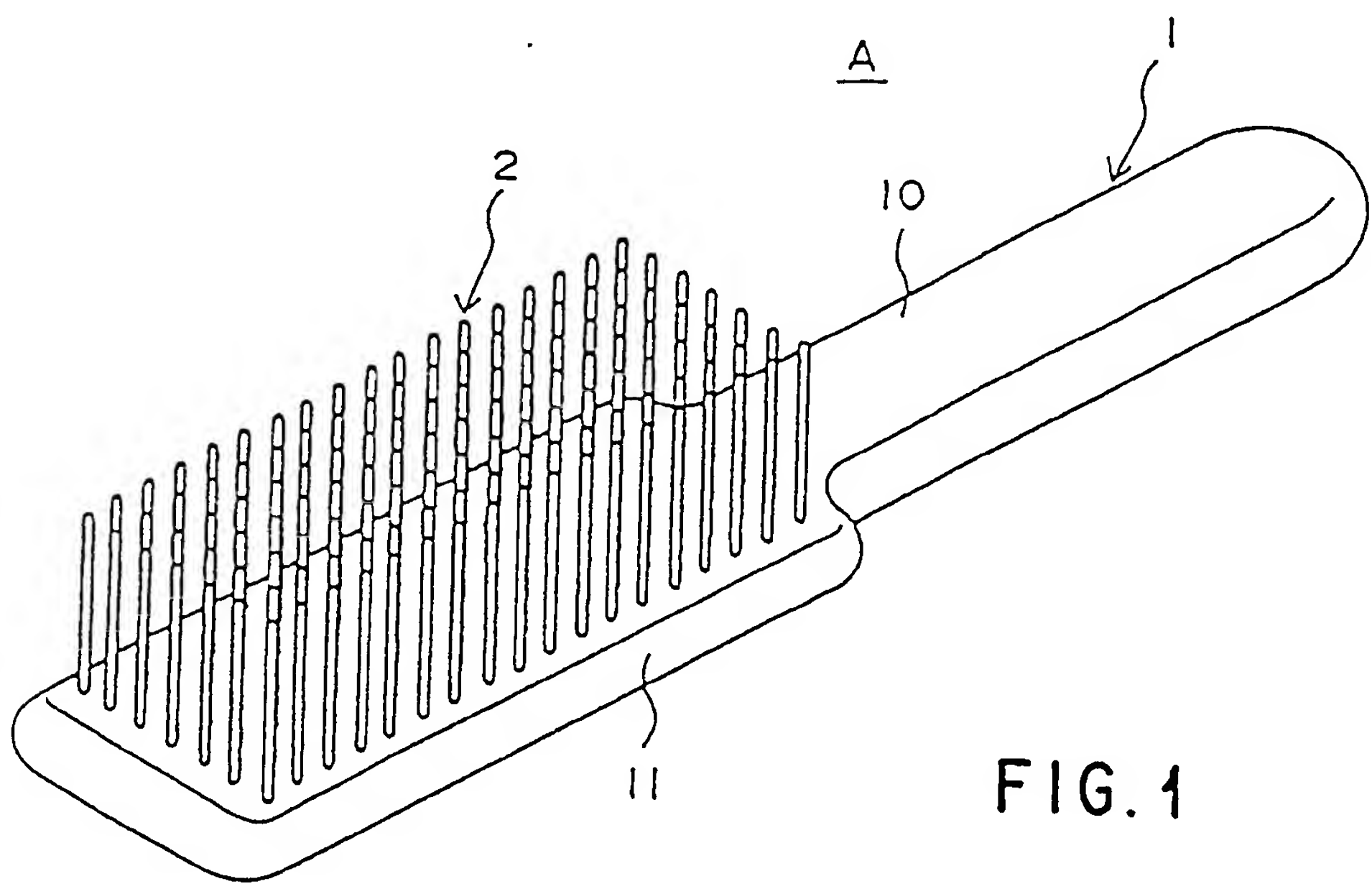


FIG. 1

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Description

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. The Field of the Invention

[0001] The field of the invention relates to hairbrushes.

2. Background Information

[0002] Conventional hairbrushes have consisted of bristles made from plastic material such as nylon or polybutylene terephthalate (PBT) so as to have strength, as well as resistance to heat and abrasion. The conventional hairbrush is able to provide moderate stimulation to the scalp when brushing the hair. However, it is unable to promote the shiny appearance of hair, encourage hair growth, and provide scalp care by stimulating blood circulation in the scalp. Therefore, a need was perceived for a hairbrush which promotes hair growth, provides scalp care, and creates shiny hair by stimulating blood circulation in the scalp.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0003] The present invention is directed to a hairbrush that promotes hair growth, provides scalp care, and creates shiny hair by stimulation of blood circulation in the scalp. A hairbrush having features of the present invention comprises a hairbrush configuration having a bristle base to which bristles made from a combination of extreme infrared radiation material powder and poly-element mineral powder mixed with a plastic material are attached. Further, carbon may be added into the bristles.

[0004] Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a hairbrush which promotes hair growth, provides scalp care, and creates shiny hair by stimulating blood circulation in the scalp. Other and further objects and advantages will appear hereinafter.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0005] It is to be understood that the accompanying drawing is provided for the purpose of illustration only, and is not intended as a definition of the limits of the invention. The drawing schematically illustrates a preferred embodiment of the present invention in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hairbrush employing the preferred embodiment of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

[0006] Referring to the Figure, the hairbrush A comprises a hairbrush base 1 and bristles 2. The hairbrush

base 1 comprises a handle 10, and bristle base 11, on which the bristles are attached or implanted. The hairbrush base 1 of the preferred embodiment is made of ABS resin. A number of the bristles 2 are implanted in the bristle base 11.

[0007] The bristles 2 are made of nylon, polybutylene terephthalate (PBT), or other suitable plastic material, containing mixed powders consisting of extreme infrared radiation material powder and poly-element minerals powder, as described below. The percentage of the volume of the powder to that of nylon is about 1 to 3%. If the percentage is over about 3%, the bristles 2 may bend easily and become unusable after a relatively short time. Extreme infrared radiation emits from the extreme infrared radiation material powder, and electromagnetic waves (feeble energy) with wave lengths of 4 to 14 μm are generated by the poly-element minerals powder.

[0008] The following compounds are made into powder and used as extreme infrared radiation materials: alumina (Al_2O_3), titania (TiO_2), ferrite (Fe_2O_3), chromium oxide (Cr_2O_3), silica (SiO_2), yttria (Y_2O_3), magnesia (MgO). These powders are used by being blended so that they will give off extreme infrared radiation with such wave lengths that are easily absorbed into the hair and scalp.

[0009] Additionally, poly-element minerals contain silicon-based minerals with various elements in good balance, such as perlite, pitchstone, and tourmaline. These minerals radiate electromagnetic waves (feeble energy) with a wave length of 4 to 14 μm . These electromagnetic waves electrically transform the surrounding of an atomic nucleus so that the atom and the material reach an excited state. In turn, a cutting and shortening of the polymerization of water clusters is caused, decreasing the volume of water and increasing the specific gravity. Furthermore, sufficient attachment of free water onto the external cell membranes of animals and plants occurs. As a result, the penetration of water, as well as that of Ca^{2+} , occur within the cells, which activate several functions of the cells. When the preferred embodiment of the present invention is applied to the hair and scalp, water within the hair will be mineralized, and protein in the hair and scalp will be activated.

[0010] Poly-element minerals, such as perlite, are milled into a powder the size of about 1 to 3 μm , using a ball mill. Preferably, the poly-element minerals powder is made and used by blending two or more such minerals with the proper blending ratio. The powder can be used as it is. Alternatively, it can also be used after it is mixed with water, and heated or pressurized, so that the clear liquid part of the water dries into a powder by vacuum-freeze drying or by spray drying methods well known in the art. The following chart shows the contents of perlite:

Anhydrous Silicon (SiO_2)	71.94%
Aluminum Oxide (Al_2O_3)	14.94%

(continued)

Iron Oxide (Fe ₂ O ₃)	2.54%	
Magnesium Oxide (MgO)	0.44%	5
Calcium Oxide (CaO)	2.47%	
Alkali Oxide (K ₂ O + Na ₂ O)	6.87%	
Manganese Oxide (MnO)	0.03%	
Anhydrous Phosphoric Acid (P ₂ O ₅)	0.14%	10
Reduction in mass when heated	3.43%	
Reduction in mass when dried (at 110°C)	0.07%	
Others, Titanium	trace	15

[0011] Furthermore, static electricity created during hair brushing can be prevented by adding carbon to the bristles 2.

[0012] The hairbrush A can be used independently or together with a hair dryer. 20

[0013] Thus, a hairbrush has been disclosed. While variations of the illustrated preferred embodiment have been shown and described, it would be apparent to those skilled in the art that many more modifications are possible without departing from the inventive concepts herein. 25

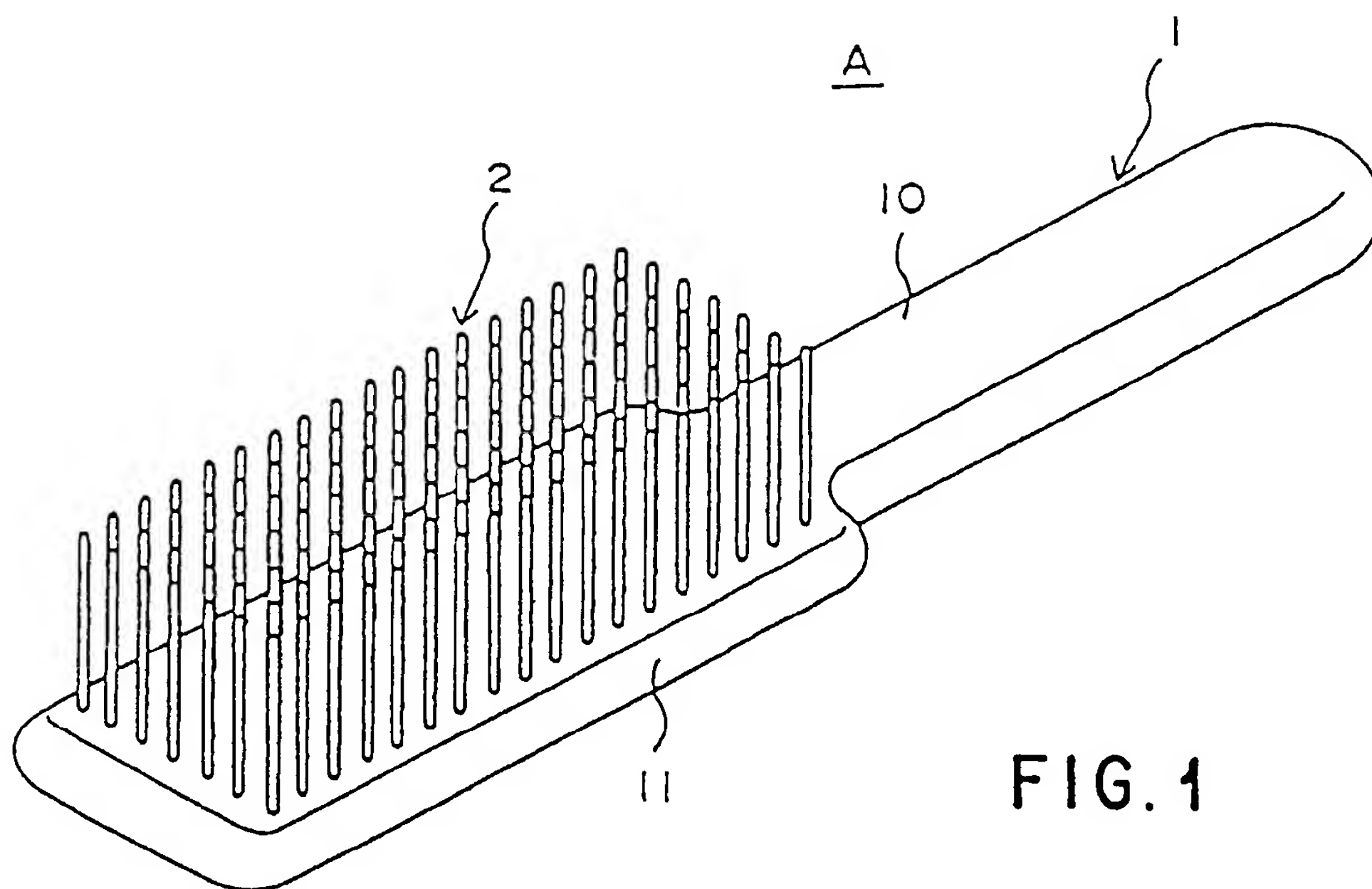
Claims 30

1. A hairbrush comprising a bristle base upon which bristles containing a mixture of both extreme infra-red radiation material and poly-element minerals are attached. 35
2. The hairbrush of claim 1 further comprising a handle attached to the bristle base.
3. The hairbrush of claim 1 in which the bristles contain carbon. 40

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 12 3253

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 October 2000	Examiner Rivero, C
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (F4C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 99 12 3253

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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